

Suspect Implicated Himself, FBI Says

Benjamin H. Paddock implicated himself in the holdup of the McDowell branch of the Valley National Bank in a jail conversation, an FBI agent testified yesterday.

The branch at 1845 E. McDowell was robbed of \$4,620 last July 26. At the second day of the Paddock trial before visiting Federal Judge J. Pierson Hall, of Los Angeles, FBI Agent Ernest J. Van Loon testified about a conversation he and Agent Roy W. Reger had with the defendant last Sept. 13 in the county jail.

VAN LOON said Paddock, 34, told him and Reger "I shouldn't have run (after the robbery); I got myself into this mess, and I deserve what I got."

Paddock told the two FBI agents, according to Van Loon, "It was obvious that if I didn't commit the robbery, I must have had some connection with it."

The final getaway car, which had ham operator plates and three radio arials, was seen by Robert E. Schmidt, assistant bank manager, in a commandeered car shortly after the holdup. Arizona officers identified the car as Paddock's by checking special

license tags issued ham radio operators. Van Loon said Paddock told him "another ham operator in Arizona has a car with arials similar to mine," but he did not amplify his statement.

William Carl Otto, Tucson, one of several witnesses yesterday, told the court he had on two different occasions installed amateur radio equipment in the 1960 Pontiac sedan owned by the defendant.

"IT WAS equipped," he said, "to operate on the sheriff's frequency."

He added that he thought Paddock had been a member of the sheriff's rescue unit and that Paddock had gone with the unit once in a search for children lost on Mount Lemon, near Tucson.

Paddock's counsel, Murray Miller, drew an admission from Van Loon that none of the fingerprints lifted from a stolen car used initially by the bank robber and abandoned compared with those of the suspect. Only a few of the 22 prints were of any value, Van Loon testified.

Witnesses from the Sands Motor Hotel told the court Paddock registered there July 25 and checked out two days later. Introduced into evidence was a Sands Motel key given to Ed Boyle, chief FBI agent for Arizona, by Paddock's wife, Dolores, a day after the robbery.

BESIDES the July 26 robbery, Paddock also faces charges of robbing the Valley Bank branch at 19th Avenue and Van Buren Feb. 19, and last Jan. 29. More than \$20,000 was obtained from the two holdups.

FBI records, which were read at yesterday's trial, disclosed that Paddock had been convicted of operating a confidence game, car theft, and writing bogus checks, and that he had served two prison terms in Illinois.

The trial, which resumes at 10 a.m. today, is expected to occupy the rest of the week.

NASSER OFF FOR MOROCCO
CAIRO (AP) — Presiden Gamal Abdel Nasser left aboard the ship Hurriya yesterday for Morocco to attend the African summit conference opening in Rabat Tuesday.

Paddock, who is 6-foot-4 and weighs nearly 250 pounds, was arrested in July at Las Vegas, Nev., by FBI agents. He is charged with the \$4,600 robbery of a Valley National Bank branch in Phoenix.

Paddock, an amateur radio operator, had two large radio transmission arials on his car which helped in tracking him down.

He lived with his wife and four children in a ranch house on north Camino Miraflores and neighbors said he had a definite air of respectability.

Palsy Post For Rinehart

Robert R. Rinehart, Scottsdale public relations executive, has succeeded Rex Staley, Phoenix Savings and Loan Company president, as president of the Cerebral Palsy Association of Central Arizona.

Other officers elected to serve with Rinehart are: Charles Garland, first vice president; Robert Nairn, second vice president; Mrs. Marie Arnold, treasurer, and Mrs. Aileen Wilson, secretary.

Upon relinquishing his post as president, Staley became an ex-officio member of the association's executive committee.

Mrs. Ruth Clyde, 304 W. Georgia, was named state president of the group.

U.S. Swaps Land In Cavecreek Area

The U.S. Forest Service concluded a land swap yesterday that is expected to result in a \$30 million residential development in the Cavecreek area.

Exchanged by the forest service were 7,500 acres of Tonto National Forest Lands near Cavecreek for 15,000 acres of Sitgreaves forest lands near Show Low, owned by the John H. Page Land Co., of Phoenix.

Robert E. Courtney, Tonto forest supervisor, said the exchange was to rid the Sitgreaves of a "checkerboard" design of private and government lands on alternate sections in the Show Low area and to place lands suitable for private development into private ownership.

Page Company, said his firm plans to develop the Cavecreek area into "fine residences." Lots,

he said, would average 5 acres, and homes would cost \$20,000 and up.

Eldean predicted that within the next few years the area would see a \$30 million development in homes and commercial establishments.

The forest service lands were the odd numbered sections along the Santa Fe Railway, which were given to its predecessor, the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Co., by the government in early development of transportation facilities in the West. The lands later reverted to the Aztec Land and Cattle Co., and were in turn sold by it to the Page company.

A portion of the Cavecreek area land is situated on the Verde River side of Pinnacle Peak.

Ysasi spotted Connor in a car traveling on Southern near 27th Avenue. The capture was made

on a description sent Phoenix police by the Detroit police.

"I am writing to express my personal appreciation and commendation for the splendid work you rendered in connection with the arrest, interrogation, and return to Detroit of Connor on a homicide charge," Hart wrote. "Detectives who traveled from Detroit to return the prisoners here advised me of the outstanding job you did and I want you to know that we are most appreciative."

Hawaii Vote To Kennedy

HONOLULU (AP) — Hawaii's confused recount of its first presidential ballots ended yesterday with President-elect John F. Kennedy winning by 115 votes.

The recount of Hawaii's 240 precincts gave Kennedy 92,410 and Richard M. Nixon 92,295.

In a reversal of the state's certified Nov. 8 election returns, Circuit Court Judge Ronald B. Jamieson ruled, in effect, the three Hawaii electoral votes should have gone to Kennedy.

Vice President Nixon had been certified winner by 141 votes.

'Big-Hearted' Guy On Trial

TUCSON (UPI)—A 34-year-old Tucson man, Benjamin Paddock, on trial in federal court at Phoenix on a bank robbery charge, is known as big-hearted "Big Daddy."

Paddock, who operated a filling station, found time to help the Pima County juvenile probation department in fighting delinquency. He even worked himself up to getting named a special deputy in 1959 to handle cases of wayward youngsters.

Said Sheriff Waldon Burr: "He bulged with sincerity. He told us he had made some mistakes in his youth and wanted to see that other youngsters stayed on the straight and narrow."

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